

## SUMMARY OF MEETING DISCUSSION

**NAME OF GROUP:** Sub-Committee of the Urban Design Committee

**DATE, TIME AND**

**PLACE OF MEETING:** Wednesday, May 1, 2002, 3:00 p.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 555 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

**MEMBERS AND OTHERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Members:** Joanne Kissel, Mike Eckert

**Others:** Randy Hoskins & Scott Opfer (Public Works - Engineering Services); Ed Zimmer & Missy Minner (Planning Dept.)

**STATED PURPOSE**

**OF THE MEETING:** Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

### **Presentation by Public Works regarding “Public Advisory Message Signs,” as part of an Intelligent Transportation System -**

Hoskins explained that the City will be installing variable message signs used to notify people of traffic problems for example during football games or when there has been an accident. They are planning to place these signs in various locations, mainly major intersections, around town. The signs will be permanently fixed. The messages can be changed by using a laptop or cell phone. Some of them have their own keyboards. They are also considering hooking them up to Public Works’ underground fiber optic network where possible. The locations will be reviewed by the Department of Roads and law enforcement agencies.

They have purchased one of these signs to be permanently installed at 48<sup>th</sup> & Cornhusker. This sign will be used to alert people to water standing in the underpass. This particular sign is “typical Public Works yellow” on the back. Members indicated some concern with that color. They would prefer a more neutral color. Opfer indicated that it might be possible to paint the signs.

The signs are made out of metal and approximately 4' x 8'. The front panel is see through plastic over the electronic messaging. They will be installed on steel posts. The signs cost approximately \$4,000 each. The data connection is separate.

The signs will be blank most of the time. The signs have radar capability installed. They anticipate a maximum of 3 messages that will repeat per sign. They are also considering installing smaller versions of these signs that could be used for example as you travel north/south on 48<sup>th</sup> Street.

Eckert liked the idea of radar on the signs and suggested that these might also be used to notify people of weather incidents such as tornado warnings. The smaller signs might also be considered in locations around the University. He felt it was a good idea to have these off part of the time so that people don’t get used to them being on. This will make them more effective when warning of a particular event.

Hoskins estimated that there will be 5 - 10 of these per year. They will bring a list of locations to the Committee for review. The Committee also asked to have some input on the color of the signs.